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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Romania

SUBJECT Escape and Pogoniele

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1. The barracks in Pogoniele consists only of a number of peasants' houses which have been seized and altered for the purpose. Most of them are not in good shape and the accommodations are of the most primitive kind. Strewn over an area of 150 by 300 m, there are: a two-story building formerly belonging to the owner of an estate, now used as a staff building; a two-story quarters building not really big enough for its purpose, with the men sleeping in bunks of more than one story; a building housing depots and kitchen; a magazine; some small peasant houses used as quarters, and a stable with a capacity of 30 to 32 horses.
2. The barracks now holds the 3rd Battalion of the infantry regiment at Buzău, with the APO No. 2715/G. The staff consists of 8 officers and 12 to 14 men. The staff company has a replacement platoon, 22 to 23 men; a communications platoon, 15 to 19 men; a medical squad, 12 men; a scouting platoon which has a light machine gun squad, 16 to 18 men; a machine pistol squad, 20 to 23 men; and a radio squad, 20 to 22 men. There are three rifle companies of 90 to 100 men, each divided into three platoons, each of which in turn is divided into three squads. Each platoon has three light machine guns. The company is equipped with 15 machine pistols, 14 pistols and 65 rifles.
3. The depot holds large quantities of machine pistols, light machine guns and rifles as a mobilization reserve. Gas masks are available for all personnel, but they remain in the magazine. The battalion has no auto park, but has 64 horses available.
4. Recruits of the class of 1930 were called up in Oct 52. By the end of Dec 52 they had finished their basic training. Clothing is poor and morale is bad; the officers and men do not get along well together. Food is both insufficient and poor, a leading reason for the low morale. The battle value of the battalion is at a minimum.

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